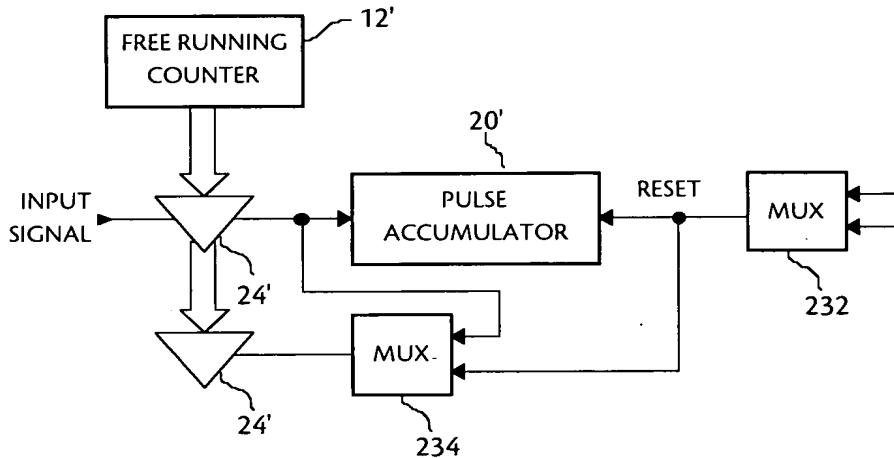


REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1–5 were rejected as anticipated by Viot et al. The Examiner relies on FIGS. 1–6 of the Viot et al. patent. FIG. 11 is sufficient for discussion and relevant portions are reproduced below. (As described in the patent, primes are used for elements in common with FIG. 1).



Pulse accumulator 20 is either an up counter or a down counter; see sentence bridging columns 3 and 4 of the Viot et al. patent. The Ku et al. patent is not cited in the statement of rejection and, therefore, is not part of the rejection. Further, what might be done is not at issue. The rejection is one of anticipation, not obviousness. The disclosure of the Viot et al. patent is what matters.

There is no disclosure of a boundary. There is no anticipation.

There is no disclosure of setting counter 20' to a predetermined value when a boundary is exceeded. There is no anticipation.

Multiplexers 234 and 232 multiplex control signals. No count is supplied to counter 20' by either multiplexer. The necessary connections and data simply do not exist. There is no anticipation.

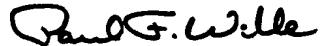
Claims 6–8 were rejected as unpatentable over Viot et al. in view of either Burke or Dillon et al. Neither the Burke et al. patent nor the Dillon et al. patent overcome the deficiencies noted above in the Viot et al. patent.

Claims 9–11 were rejected as unpatentable over Viot et al. in view of Ku et al. There is no basis for the combination. The lack of disclosure in the Viot et al. patent is not overcome by the Ku et al. patent; see the figure provided above. The necessary connections and data do not exist.

Claim 12 was rejected as unpatentable over Viot et al. in view of Ku et al. and Sharpe–Geisler. There is no basis for the combination. The Sharpe–Geisler patent “relates to a circuit for performing a carry in a system utilizing look up tables.” This does not appear to be related to a tone detector or a timer. Claim 12 distinguishes over the prior art for the same reasons as claim 9.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1–12 are in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul F. Wille
Reg. No. 25,274
Attorney for Applicants

6407 East Clinton Street
Scottsdale, Arizona 85254
Tel.: (602) 549–9088